

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

A<sup>1</sup>  
This application claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application Number 60/213,983, entitled "Micro Identifier System and Components for Optical Assemblies," filed June 24, 2000. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/318,451, filed May 25, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,404,953, issued June 11, 2002, which is a continuation application of U.S. Application No. 08/819,979, filed March 13, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,953,477, issued September 14, 1999, the disclosure of which is hereby fully incorporated by reference.

*In the Claims:*

Please amend Claims 13 and 14 to read as follows (Appendix B provides a version of the claims showing additions and deletions):

A<sup>2</sup>  
13. A system according to Claim 12, wherein said machine-readable identifier comprises a series of disruptions disposed in said cladding.

14. A system according to Claim 12, wherein said machine-readable identifier is etched into said cladding.

Remarks

Claims 1-34 are pending in the subject application and have been allowed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the above amendments to the specification and claims under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. The amendments correct a minor error in the specification